

Eagles aim for improvement

By JOEY CHANDLER
Collegian Sports Reporter

Ask any football player on campus about the four core values and they will be able to tell you just what they are and how much impact they have on their team.

After coming off of a 2-9 season, the Eagles football team needed to make some changes, and instilling these values into the players was one of them. Since January, the Eagles coaching staff has been stressing the importance of four core values for the team to follow this year.

Coach Gary Keller feels very strongly about these values and feels that in order to succeed as a team this year the Eagles need to remember these four simple things. The Eagles' four core values are: strong faith, a caring, unselfish team, accountability and investment.

"We cannot be good without these core values; we train like any other team, but they emphasize what it is we must do in order to win," he said.

The Eagles had been planning on starting the season with a win, and were highly disappointed after their season-opener loss to Michigan Tech.

"We wanted to start winning early this year, and losing our first game was hard. But the task ahead of us now is to build on those things that went right. We need to keep an upbeat attitude and continue to get better in the process each week," says Keller.

As far as competing in the GLIAC this year, Keller feels that

if the team can experience success early and hang in there that they have a chance at staying competitive in the conference.

Leadership is another key component that the Eagles need in order to be successful this season.

"We have been challenging our seniors to step up and be leaders for the team. We need players that can step up and make plays in order to win. It is harder for the younger kids on the team to be those leaders, but our seniors have the capability of stepping up and making those plays," Keller said.

Offensively, he feels that the following players have the ability to be those key playmakers he needs to step up this fall: starting quarterback John Szabo, offensive linemen Blake Dickson and Wallace Sonnie, running back Antwon Hart, tight end Brian Mong and wide receivers Trent Seay and red-shirt freshman Brandon Gilmore.

As far as special teams, the Eagles can rely on kicker Austin Wellock, who was an All-American during the preseason.

"He is a consistent player who can control the ball through the kicking game," says Keller.

True freshman Trevor Wood will be punting for the team this fall.

Keller is counting on a number of his players to step up defensively, as well. On the outside, look for Bret Barlow, Dan Drane, Jason Reynolds, Chris Campbell and Jeremy Crabtree.

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Collegian Photo By: April DeLallo

Community Stadium was the battle site for the Eagles' home opener on Sept. 6 against the Edinboro Fighting Scots

Eagles fall 12-6 in defensive struggle vs. Edinboro

By DAN MACKALL
Collegian Reporter

It is hard to win games when you do not score points.

The Eagles learned that lesson first hand Saturday night as two field goals weren't enough to beat the Fighting Scots of Edinboro. Edinboro won 12-6 in what proved to be a battle between the two defenses.

Austin Wellock connected on field goals of 32 and 33 yards, but the real story of the night was defense.

The Eagles played tenacious defense led by sophomore linebacker Devon Conwell who had 15 tackles and an interception, and senior lineman Dan Drane who had two quarterback sacks to go along

with seven tackles. Coach Gary Keller had nothing but good things to say about his defense and Conwell in particular.

"That was the best game we've played (defensively) in a long time, the coaches coached well and the players executed," Keller said.

When asked about Conwell, Keller said, "He is a really good football player who has a nose for the ball. He was named GLIAC player of the week for his performance."

That is the first time an AU football player has won that award since Wellock got the award Oct. 5 for his stellar performance against Wayne State.

The Eagles managed to stop the running game except for one 66-yard touchdown run by the

Scots' Dru Robinson in the second quarter. Aside from that run they held Robinson to 64 yards on 20 carries for a 3.2-yard-per-carry average. The AU defense also held the Scots to only 88 yards passing.

The defensive standouts for Edinboro were inside linebackers Jermaine Hughley (eight tackles and two sacks) and Ben Stroup (five and one).

AU quarterback John Szabo could not duplicate last year's performance against the Scots when he torched them for 308 yards and three scores on 26 of 39 passing. Szabo threw for only 129 yards, completing 12 of 27 passes. His favorite receiver of the night was Michael Hull, who had three catches for 52 yards.

However, Szabo did put together a nice drive in the fourth quarter to get AU its second field goal. He completed passes of 31 and 11 yards to Hull, mixed in with a completion to Antwan Hart. Hart also busted a 12-yard run on the drive.

The Eagles running duo of Jason Schwalm and Hart combined for 127 yards on 29 carries (4.4-yard average) but no touchdowns.

Kicker Austin Wellock, who was the only point scorer, summed up the team's effort. "Our offense is getting better game by game," he said, "and I'm just going to do whatever I can to help the team win."

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PLAY SINGLED OUT

with all the

ALSO SIT BACK
AND ENJOY AS WE
CELEBRATE GREEK

Greek Guys and Gals

Thursday September 11th at 9:00p.m.

WOBBLE WOBBLE
AND DROP IT LIKE IT
AIN'T NO THANG

Sorority Recruitment Schedule Fall 2003 Fraternity Recruitment Schedule Fall 2003

Thursday, Sept 18

Info Session - 9:00 p.m. - Meet in the Student Center Auditorium

Tuesday, Sept 23

Open House - 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept 24

Creative Parties - 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Sept 25

Theme Party/Invite Pickup - Noon - 3 p.m.

Friday, Sept 26

Theme Parties - 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, Sept 27

Preference Parties - Parties begin @
10:30 am - Phi Mu 12:15pm - Delta Zeta
1:45pm - AD Pi 3:15pm - Alpha Phi

Sunday, Sept 28

Bid Day - Noon - Be in your rooms for Bid Handouts

Sunday, Sept 14

Information Meeting - 9:00 p.m. Meet Recruitment Counselors at Auditorium
The Piano Lounge of the Student Center.

Monday, Sept. 15

Open House Rotation - 9:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept 16

Open House Rotation - 9:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Thursday, Sept 18

Preference Night Activities - 6:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Friday, Sept 19

Formal Bids Given - 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

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THE KEYS TO THE
JEEP!**

SHAKE YA TAILFEATHER & Possible

BADONKADONK!!!

WIN A DATE within your 1st 3 weeks back at School